

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims is provided in accordance with 37 C.F.R.

§1.121:

1. (previously presented) An X-ray tube, comprising:
an anode assembly, comprising:
a target for emitting X-rays upon irradiation with an electron beam,
a rotor shaft coupled to a motor rotor system and the target, the rotor shaft
configured to rotate the target, and
a bearing system comprising at least two duplex bearing assemblies
supporting the rotor shaft; and
a cathode assembly, comprising:
a cathode configured to emit the electron beam, and
an insulator isolating the cathode from ground potential, wherein the
insulator and the motor rotor system are located on the same side of the target.
2. (original) The X-ray tube of claim 1, wherein the insulator comprises
a conical insulator.
3. (cancelled).
4. (original) The X-ray tube of claim 1, wherein the insulator is offset in
a radial direction to the motor rotor system.
5. (original) The X-ray tube of claim 1, wherein the at least two duplex
bearing assemblies distribute load substantially evenly.

6. (original) The X-ray tube of claim 1, wherein the at least two duplex bearing assemblies straddle the target.

7. (previously presented) A CT system, comprising:
a gantry adapted to rotate about a volume;
an X-ray tube mounted on the gantry, the X-ray tube, comprising:
 an anode assembly, comprising:
 a target for emitting X-rays upon irradiation with an electron beam,
 a rotor shaft coupled to a motor rotor system and the target, the
 rotor shaft configured to rotate the target, and
 a bearing system comprising at least two duplex bearing assemblies
 supporting the rotor shaft; and
 a cathode assembly, comprising:
 a cathode configured to emit the electron beam, and
 an insulator isolating the cathode from ground potential, wherein
 the insulator and the motor rotor system are located on the same side of the
 target;
an X-ray detecting unit configured to detect the X-rays emitted from the X-ray
tube and transmitted through the volume and to generate a detector output signal in
response to the detected X-rays;
an X-ray controller configured to operate the X-ray tube;
a data acquisition system for receiving the detector output signal;
an image reconstructor coupled to the data acquisition system for generating an
image signal in response to the detector output signal; and
a computer for controlling the operation of at least one of the X-ray controller, the
data acquisition system and the image reconstructor.

8. (previously presented) The CT system of claim 7, wherein the insulator comprises a conical insulator.

9. (cancelled).

10. (original) The CT system of claim 7, wherein the insulator is offset in a radial direction to the motor rotor system.

11. (original) The CT system of claim 7, further comprising a collimator to direct the beam to the subject.

12. (original) The CT system of claim 7, wherein the at least two duplex bearing assemblies distribute load substantially evenly.

13. (original) The CT system of claim 7, wherein the at least two duplex bearing assemblies straddle the target.

14. (previously presented) An anode assembly, comprising:
a target for emitting X-rays upon irradiation with an electron beam;
a rotor shaft coupled to a motor rotor system and the target, the rotor shaft configured to rotate the target; and
a bearing system comprising at least two duplex bearing assemblies supporting the rotor shaft, wherein the at least two duplex bearing assemblies straddle the target.

15. (original) The anode assembly of claim 14, further comprising a fixed stem.

16. (original) The anode assembly of claim 15, wherein the rotor shaft is coupled with the fixed stem via the at least two duplex bearing assemblies.

17. (original) The anode assembly of claim 14, wherein the at least two duplex bearing assemblies allows load to be distributed substantially evenly.

18. (cancelled).

19. (previously presented) A method for CT imaging, the method comprising:
rotating a gantry about a subject at greater than three rotations per second;
emitting X-rays from an X-ray tube mounted on the gantry; and
generating one or more images of the subject based upon the attenuation of the emitted X-rays by the subject.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein rotating the gantry comprises rotating the gantry at approximately five rotations per second.

21. (previously presented) A CT system, comprising:
means for rotating a gantry about a subject at greater than three rotations per second;
means for emitting X-rays from an X-ray tube mounted on the gantry; and
means for generating one or more images of the subject based upon the attenuation of the emitted X-rays by the subject.